

Healthy Community Coalition
Meeting Notes
Thursday 6/18/20

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, June 25 at 11am via ZOOM (meetings are now **weekly**)

FACILITATOR: Laura Smith

NOTE TAKER: Maren Van Nostrand/Lisa Hart

ADD THE FOLLOWING TO DISTRIBUTION LIST

Allan Nath: anath@hopelink.org

trissad@svshelterservices.org

beckyreimer@hotmail.com

jody@asupportivecommunityforall.org

mburns@seattlemca.org

Lindsay Henning Lda94@hotmail.com

lellsworth@kcls.org

Don't Have Email Address For

Jen Carter (Board member community member):

Michelle Mrachek:

SPECIAL GUEST: Congresswoman Kim Schrier joined this meeting at 11:30 am

Communication Over ZOOM Chat

From Lindsay Ellsworth (KCLS)

- Please, send me the flyers for the teens and add me to the local advocacy email.

Thanks! lellsworth@kcls.org

From Trissa:

- The Resource Center (at American Legion Post on River St in Snoqualmie) needs plastic grocery bags for food distribution, 2+ person tents (new or used - our folks go through tents b/c tents aren't really meant to be lived in . . .) also tarps, small propane tanks (16 oz or smaller) and water bottles/jugs. And, always canned soup/fruit, snacks, single serve beverages.
- drop off details for Resource Center - RC Staff on site Sun-Th 2-4p. If that limited time doesn't work well, folks can also drop off on my front porch - 229 NE 8th St, North Bend (just off Ballarat). OK to drop and go, my dogs will go ballistic when you park, so we'll know we've had a delivery :)

From Laura Smith (SVCN)

- **Link to Summer Food Drive** <https://snoqualmievalleycommunitynetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Food-Resources-Summer-2020.pdf>

From Amy Biggs (SVST)

- On May 13, the Office of Financial Management gave the directive to state agencies to propose preliminary options for reducing their General Fund-State (GF-S) expenditures from their current budgets by fifteen percent. For the Aging and Long-Term Support Administration (AL TSA), that equates to over \$220 million General Fund-State dollars and approximately twice that amount in total funds since most of our funding is federally matched. On June 5, we released a communication to stakeholders identifying potential areas for reduction to meet our directed target. These funds support transportation for seniors, people with special needs, and programs for seniors.

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- Question: Is there any possibility that the federal match requirement may be reduced so that a portion of those funds may be available?

From Chris Lovings

- Is there discussions around switching WA State from a regressive tax state to a progressive tax rate?

Eleanor Trenary

- Any further questions or comments for Congresswoman Schrier please send to me! Eleanor.trenary@mail.house.gov

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Snoqualmie Valley Transit

Amy Biggs is working in a Local Advocacy group which is helping to communicate with cities and counties about how to create a “welcome to [city name] life” message, including, “These are the organizations [listed], and “this is what they do.” The groups is comprised of 12 organizations with the common goal of helping people live to their full potential and getting everyone more in touch with human services in Snoqualmie Valley.

[Laura Smith: reminds people to drop their email into chat box so we can stay in touch.]

CRITICAL NEEDS

Friends of Youth

Cristina Campos announced several events coming soon:

- Tuesday June 23, noon: “counselor chat” about teen substance use (open to the community).
- Wednesday, June 24, LGBTQIA for 17 year olds
- Mid-July: School Wellness program for MS and HS

FOY will send detailed info about these events to Lisa Hart, who'll include them here.

Food Distribution Collaboration

- Will need volunteers with Power Packs packing and distribution.

Influence Choice Community Coalition

Jerry Blackburn has new information on the prevention of drug overdose through the use of reversal meds. Importance of having them on-hand for people who regularly use opioid meds for chronic pain, and other common uses. Important we get these into the hands of as many individuals such as these people, who are at greater risk for overdosing, as possible. Prevention!

Snoqualmie Valley Transit

Amy Biggs: Free rides to kids are available through Aug 31. Kids 10 and older can ride unaccompanied. New FDA rule doesn't allow any more food delivery, this impacts the Senior Center. This is grant money that SVT relied upon to deliver meals. Looking for alternative ways to delivery food. Hyde Shuttle was delivering for Senior Center as well....so now no way to deliver. People don't feel comfortable going to senior centers to get their meals, fear of infection. This is an important program. Val Stewart, Lisa Yeager and [redacted] are working on this and available to answer questions. Best way for volunteers to sign up is:

- 1) feel comfortable with delivering food
- 2) be healthy with no underlying health conditions
- 3) look on Love Snoqualmie Valley website

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4) Contact Val Stewart.

SPECIAL QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION WITH CONGRESSWOMAN KIM SCHRIER

Kim Schrier, Washinton's 8th District Representative, joined the call at 11:32 am: Thank you, constituents. Important term, joining as a woman doctor in congress. 'Got to work behind the scenes to help with women's voices in health care. Pandemic gives a good opportunity to work with caucuses, FEMA, ...grateful for this role. Past few months have been challenging, as related to people's health and economic disasters. Focusing on justice overall. Many layers of issues: infections, death, racial disparity in risk levels. Many people can't do their jobs from home: women, small businesses and people of color. Evidence of police brutality. Getting funds to research economics and business, enhance unemployment benefits. Helping people get closer to becoming whole again. Helping people with insurance and mortgage payments. Heroes Act will help: working with all mayors in district and WA State Governor Inslee. State and local funding are what keeps everything going. Zero percent interest. Can't let things go bankrupt. Heroes Act is not just a rescue package, but safety, transportation, and many other issues will be coordinated to create our country anew. Addressing where the skills are, and focus on that. Justice is also key...a bill voted on next week...a strong first step...we need to dig deeper...undo 400 years of racism. Equal pay for women.

Chris Lovings (Eastside Legal Assistance Program): Concerned about undocumented workers wanting to go back to work. What are the labor standards? How can we help with them not being re-exposed to Covid-19?

KS: Recent bills left out our undocumented people. Cash payment left out huge number of citizens not on Social Security. Injustice. Unemployment insurance missed the immigrants. Heroes act is remedying that. PPE: Governors are asking president to have production lines switch over PPE production. We'll need these for a couple of years. Only the president can do this.

Jerry Blackburn (Influence the Choice): We're looking at the acute structures, but thinking on behavioral health levels, and impacts of crisis. Is there legislation to affect what's ultimately going to happen later on? We're seeing increases in anxiety levels and many other changes. Vulnerable populations are being disproportionately impacted with increasing levels of trauma, navigating systems with more/less barriers, which we can help manage/safeguard.

KS: FEMA helps with mental health counseling, jobs, and housing. I got going a telemedicine bill which enabled people to see their primary physicians and other important key doctors for maintaining good health. The bill helps with virtual visits. MH has worsened. Getting kids back to school is very important. We need to mitigate impacts of isolation on grandparents. Kids have lost out by not being in school. Learning, nutrition, safety...how to mitigate that risk.

Beverly Jacobson: What are the plans for improving the routine exams....how to prevent outbreaks. Are there plans to mitigate?

KS: We're already seeing measles outbreaks because people have been afraid to go to doctor. We're encouraging people to go to their well child exams. Safety precautions: Wait in car until called into the office. Go in separate door to get a shot. Length of time in a shared room can determine risk of getting Covid.

Amy Biggs: Funding for the aging, and long-term support...

KS: "Wick" [sp?] and ACT, Meals on Wheels, these all have new priority. Have been given extra funding. Make sure to provide phones to those who may not have them (pay disparity), making ways to connect people through just the phone. MH is going to be tough. Isolation of grandparents...heartbreaking with grandkids so far away. Back yard visits should be made possible. With appropriate distancing guidelines and staying outside, grandparents can see their children.

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Amy Biggs: Aging and long term support. The 20 million in funding can be doubled with federal match. How can we make a portion of these funds?

KS: Pass the Heroes Act. I did increase FMAP (Fed Matching for Medicaid).

Sarah Marsh: Undocumented workers have had it hard accessing benefits, as KS mentioned, agreed. Another obstacle is the intake system, which seems archaic and complex. Hard to navigate online. Wrong button can be pushed. Issues are inequity and usability accessing benefits. Is there any movement on that? How to make the internet a public utility for all? Connection is needed to access the world.

KS: Internet is the most efficient to access all these services with a computer. Because we've closed the libraries, all these people who normally use internet in the libraries now can't. Groups are working with them: United Way, etc...We need libraries to re-open with Zoom. Submitting paper work....On utility: huge percentage of people of color with no access. In Cleveland they created a public internet utility. Similar solution is in the Heroes Act. One complication is that major parts of the country don't even have the fiber. It will take time to get into the infrastructure bill.

Erica Healy: I work with homeless kids. Sometimes they only have one week to respond to benefits. Person on the other end of line asks you to call back, then get put on hold. I help kids access food benefits because there're so many hoops. NOW its virtually impossible to help them. Is there a way to streamline benefits? People who are struggling have poor internet and case management.

KS: Please call my office to talk about this issue. There's less than one percent fraud. I'm constantly battling against that narrative. We should triple it and incentivize fruits and veggies.

Laura Smith: What's the best way for us to access funding so it gets to SV area?

KS: State funding can be channeled directly to the community. There's a shared contribution. Don't know if we'll get the robust funding we need. Red and blue states both need the help.

LS: Funding is now coming in from everywhere. Concerned about 2021-2022, when we're still seeing the impacts of the pandemic. More supports will be needed. Will there be COVID funding then?

KS:

For Snoqualmie Valley [what is the geographic area on this?]

- 2020: 4.5 million
- 2021: 2.3 million

For North Bend

- 2020: 2.35
- 2021: 1.17 million

KS: I'm hearing that this funding helps cities fill a gap. There will be support along the way. "You don't bounce back from this. Is all has downstream affects that we're going to have to help."

LS: Business recovery vs. human services....any estimates? It depends on who you elect. Local advocacy team, that's your work right there.

Amy Biggs: Low bar in many cities on how many of their funds are allocated to human services. Local advocacy groups will be needed to raise awareness.

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KS: Any extra questions will be sent to KS's assistant, Eleanor Trenray.

ATTENDANCE—I didn't save these names, either...please add if possible. I put Qs by the people who I wasn't sure were there:

ATTENDANCE

Snoqualmie Valley Community Network

Sarah Marsh (SVCN Youth Resilience & Community Resource Coordinator for SVSD): Sarah@svcn.info

Maren Van Nostrand (SVCN Youth Resilience & Community Resource Coordinator for SVSD): Maren@svcn.info

Karla Russell (Community Coordinator for Pathways to Employment Success and Be Kind Snoqualmie): Karla@svcn.info

Lisa Hart (Community Coordinator): Lisa@svcn.info

Beverly Jacobson: beverlybjk@earthlink.net

Lindsay Henning: Lda94@hotmail.com

Eastside Legal Assistance Program

Chris Lovings: chris@elap.org

Encompass

Sam Sinanan (Parent and Family Coordinator): Sandra.sinanan@encompassnw.org

Daisy Bakos: daisy.bakos@encompassnw.org

Friends of Youth

Cindy Obtinario (Homeless Prevention Program): cindy@friendsofyouth.org

Christina Campos (Mental Health Program Manager): christinac@friendsofyouth.org

Government and Local Officials

Lane Covington (SVCN Board and Office of Councilmember Kathy Lambert) lane.covington@kingcounty.gov

Amy Ockerlander (Mayor of Duvall): Amy.Ockerlander@duvallwa.gov

Eleanor Trenray: (with Congresswoman Kim Schrier, WA-08): Eleanor.Trenray@mail.house.gov

Helping Hands and Life Community Church

Jon Wren: jon@lifesnoqualmie.org

Hopelink

Anne Lis (Client Resource Specialist): ALis@hopelink.org

Allana Nath (New Food Bank Supervisor): ANath@hopeline.org

Holy Innocents Church and Food Pantry (Duvall)

Carrie Harris (Outreach Coordinator): carrie@holynn.org

Influence the Choice

Jerry Blackburn (Ex Director): Jerry@influencethechoice.org

King County Library System

Jenn Carter: jecarter@kcls.org

Lindsay Ellsworth (Teen Librarian North Bend and Snoqualmie): lellsworth@kcls.org

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NAMI EASTSIDE and Church of Latter-Day Saints

Steve McDonald:

Mamma's Hands & House of Hope

Claire Erickson: erica@mammashands.org

Mount Si Senior Center, Snoqualmie Valley and Issaquah Senior Centers

Valerie Stewart (represents far East Senior hub including Mount Si): valerie@soundgenerations.org

Rotary Club of Snoqualmie Valley

David Moore: davidseldonmoore@comcast.net

Seattle YMCA

Alyson Paris (TRACE Program): aparis@seattleyymca.org

Melinda Burns: mburns@seattleyymca.org

Snoqualmie Valley Hospital

Jen Carter (Board member community member):

Snoqualmie Valley School District

Erica Healy (Social Worker at MSHS): healye@svsd410.org

Snoqualmie Valley Shelter Services

Trissa Dexheimer (Operations Manager): Trissa@valleyrenewalcenter.com

Snoqualmie Valley Transit

Amy Biggs: ABiggs@SVTBus.org

Supportive Community for All

Jody Miesel jody@asupportivecommunityforall.org

Tolt United Congregational Church (Tolt UCC)

Becky Reimer: beckyreimer@hotmail.com